

REMARKS

Claims Rejections - 35 USC §112 First Paragraph

Claims 5-8, 12 & 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention.

The first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112 provides:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same, and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention. [emphasis added].

This section of the statute requires that the specification include the following:

- (A) A written description of the invention;
- (B) The manner and process of making and using the invention (the enablement requirement); and
- (C) The best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

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The applicant respectfully submits that the claimed invention is indeed recited in full, clear, concise, and exact terms, as are necessary to enable the invention. The applicant draws the Office's attention to paragraph 006 of the specification wherein is described:

According to the vehicle shock absorber of the present invention, a uniform shock absorbing property can be obtained in all of positions of the shock receiving surface, and especially **if a distance from a lower end of a recessed groove in a first wall to a second wall is made equal to a distance from the lower end of the recessed groove in the first wall to a lower end of the recessed groove in**

the second wall, a further uniform shock absorbing property can be obtained.

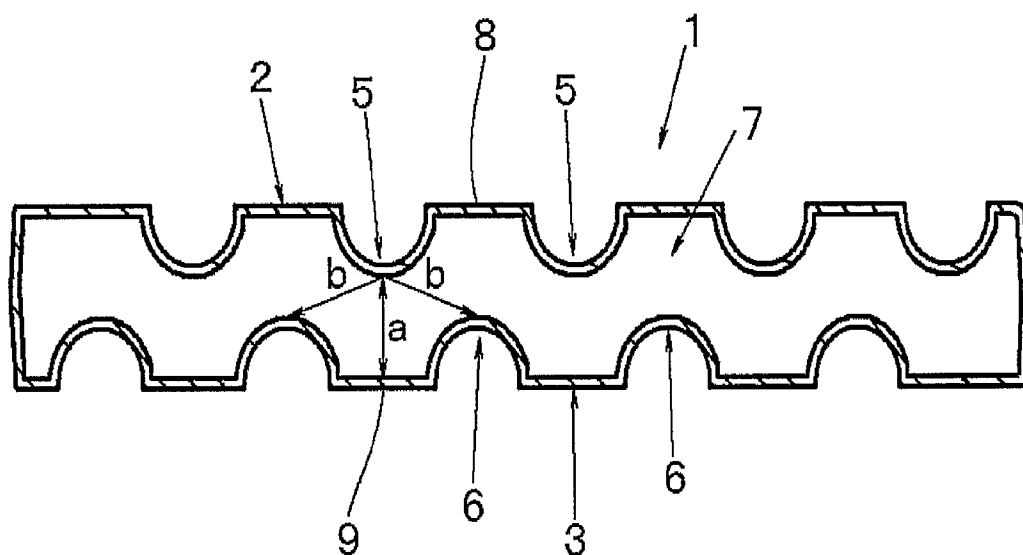
The applicant respectfully submits that paragraph 006 both provides support for the claimed element and articulates the advantage derived from the element. Paragraph 007 further addresses this element.

To achieve the above object, a first aspect of the present invention provides a vehicle shock absorber installed inside a vehicle structural member so as to absorb shocks from interior or exterior, wherein the vehicle shock absorber is formed to be hollow by blow-molding thermoplastic plastic, **a first wall and a second wall are provided to be spaced from and opposed to each other, a shock receiving surface connects the first and second walls, the first and second walls are formed with a plurality of recessed grooves at substantially equal spaced intervals**, the recessed grooves are formed by walls which are substantially perpendicular to the shock receiving surface, and the recessed grooves are formed from an end of the shock receiving surface of the first wall or the second wall to the other end.

The specification further recites in paragraph 0021:

In FIGS. 1 to 3, a reference symbol 1 represents a vehicle shock absorber. The vehicle shock absorber 1 is formed to be hollow by blow-molding thermoplastic plastic, and a first wall 2 and a second wall 3 are opposed to each other at a distance from each other. A peripheral wall connecting one ends of the first wall 2 and the second wall 3 functions as a shock receiving surface 4. **The first wall 2 and the second wall 3 are formed with a plurality of recessed grooves 5 and 6 arranged at substantially equal distances from each other.** A reference symbol 7 represents a hollow portion.

For further illustration of the claimed geometry, applicant respectfully draws the office's attention to Figure 2.



The applicant respectfully submits that, as it has stated in the specification, the claimed structure improves the uniformity of the molded component, and as a result the performance of the claimed invention. To elaborate upon the specification, one embodiment of the claimed invention is manufactured by blow molding, a process whereby variations in wall thickness commonly result due to a “bulging” of the thermoplastic parison during the blowing of the parison into the mold. The resulting walls are not uniform and areas may be thin, with diminished impact resisting capacity. Uniform wall properties are important in providing a high shock absorbing capacity, and the claimed invention’s geometry has been found to provide this uniformity.

The applicant respectfully requests that the Office withdraw its rejection of claims 5-8, 12, and 13 as these claims are supported by the specification.

Claims Rejections - 35 USC §112 Second Paragraph

The Office rejected Claim 7 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicant regards as the invention.

The applicant respectfully submits that the current amendment to claim 7 cures the Office's rejection.

Applicant believes the above amendments and remarks to be fully responsive to the Office Action, thereby placing this application in condition for allowance. No new matter is added. Applicant requests speedy reconsideration, and further requests that Examiner contact its attorney by telephone, facsimile, or email for quickest resolution, if there are any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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